

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30, 31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Office of the Employment Advocate

Question Number: **W277-06**

Question:

Senator Ludwig provided in writing:

Does the Agency have an in-house legal section? If so, what was the 2004/2005 actual cost of this section? What was the budgeted amount for this section in 2004/2005? What is the budget amount for this section in 2005/2006?

Answer:

Yes the Office of the Employment Advocate does have a Legal Unit.

The actual cost of the Legal unit in 2004/05 was \$833,360 as at 31 May 2005. The estimated cost for June 2005 is \$80,486.75. This includes the costs of in-house lawyers provided in answer to QoN 235 and the cost of outsourced practitioners provided in answer to QoN 234.

The budgeted amount for the Legal unit for 2004/2005 was \$843,425.00.

The preliminary budgeted amount for the Legal unit for 2005/2006 as at 28 June 2004 was \$959,909.00. This includes the budgeted cost of in-house lawyers and the budgeted cost of outsourced practitioners.